

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Hanna Maria SMOLAREK, Gheorghe Emil DUTA and
David LIWSZYC

Serial No.: 10/563,039

Group Art Unit: 3677

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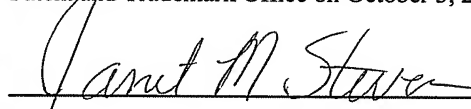
Conf. No.: 6059

For: ELASTIC JOINT ELEMENT AND FASTENER ASSEMBLY
INCORPORATING THE SAME

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I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted via EFS to the
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Janet M. Stevens

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend the subject application as
follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.